School Bullying

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**School Bullying Presentation**

**Summary**

Approximately 30% of students within the United States either have been the victim of a bullying incident or have bullied another student (CDC, 2007). Bullying in the school system today is becoming more covert through more indirect bullying, such as social isolation, rumor spreading, gossiping, ostracizing, and cyberbullying. Many incidents of bullying are going unnoticed by the teachers and school staff. These incidents are affecting our students’ education. Research has revealed that not only the bullied are the victim but the bully and the bystanders or witnesses also have negative consequences such as a decrease in attendance, a decrease in self-esteem, an increase in anxiety, a higher chance of dropping out and engaging in criminal behavior (Jacobsen & Bauman, 2007). The students are the answers to many of the questions. The students are the bullies, the bullied, and the bystanders; they must also be a part of the solution. Through character education, classroom guidance, high expectations, consistent discipline, and involvement from educators, bullying will be greatly reduced.

In this teacher in-service, school counselors will provide awareness training to the teachers and staff regarding school bullying. Misconceptions about school bullying will be brought to their attention and a clear definition will be explained. At the beginning of the power point presentation, ask for a show of hands of who has experienced bullying in their childhood. Once the power point is complete, pose the same question and ask if anyone has a different perception of school bullying. Teachers, during the in-service must understand what bullying is, how to possibly recognize it, and how to help. Counselors will alert teachers as to what their role will be in implementing classroom guidance and education. As school counselors, we must provide support and guidance to the students and the staff in ways to help the students develop their full potential.

**References:**

Center for Disease Control and Prevention. The National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center. (2007). *Bullying facts and statistics*. Retrieved December 31, 2009, from <http://www.safeyouth.org/scripts/faq/bullying.asp>

Jacobsen, K. & Bauman, S. (2007, October). Bullying in Schools: School counselor’s responses to three types of bullying incidents. *Professional School Counseling*, 11(1), 1-9.